

# 29th-annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

**F**or a fleeting moment around mid-night as the sun dips below the horizon, there comes a hushed silence. Nature seems to hold its breath, even the birds stop twittering. The earth and all growing things drink in the dew and send forth a heady scent. It is Skynning (Twilight). Boys and girls strolling hand in hand are part of the picture as the Midsummer Night casts its spell."

— Of Swedish Ways, Lily Lorenzen



June 21 • 22 • 23, 1996 • Astoria

Supplement to  
The Daily  
Astorian



## Miss Scandinavia 1995

I'd like to welcome you to the 129th Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. It has been an honor representing the Festival Association this past year as Miss Scandinavia. In 1985, I was Jr. Miss Finland. The festival has special meaning to me and is very much a part of keeping my heritage alive. My aunt Maria Lowe, was Miss Finland for the very first Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival in 1968.

My Finnish heritage comes from both sides of my family. The history begins where my grandparents, Elsa and Valio Routio decided to leave their homeland of Finland and immigrate to the United States in 1955. My mother was 3 months old at that time. It amazes me of the strength they had to venture to a strange land with a language they did not know. My grandparents found a sense of community, new friends and a place to build a home.

I feel fortunate that my brother, Chris and I grew up so close to my grandparents. Finnish traditions, customs and language have always been a part of our lives. I understand and even speak a little Finnish. Chris traveled to Finland in 1984, and I too hope to visit one day. My parents are Dave and Helen Stevenson of Astoria. I am currently attending the University of Oregon.

I've enjoyed being a part of the Festival through Scandinavian dancing and family involvement. The Festival brings all nationalities together for one weekend each year, just to have fun, share customs, and for some, create memories that last a lifetime.



Kerry Stevenson

## Miss Denmark

Welcome to the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival! My name is Stephanie Ann Fay and I am very honored to be representing Denmark this year. I am 17 years old and my parents are Dan and Sheila Fay of Astoria. I have two sisters, Cindy who was Miss Denmark in 1984 and Shari who was Miss Denmark and Miss Scandinavia in 1987. I am proud to be continuing what seems to have become a family tradition, representing Denmark.

My heritage comes from my great-grandmother who immigrated from Aarhus, Denmark, and my great-grandfather, who came from Horsens, Denmark. My costume represents Aarhus and is a traditional Danish costume. One of the most interesting pieces of a Danish costume seems to be the hat. My hat has been given the nickname "Flying Nun" because of its wings and lace. My costume was originally made for my sister Cindy and has been passed on to me. When I was Junior Miss Denmark in 1986, I wore a small replica of it made by my mother.

When I think of the Festival, I can't help but remember the smell of Æbleskivers! I have worked in the Danish booth at the Festival for the past four years, but from a very young age remember helping to make the Æbleskivers. They are, of course, my favorite Scandinavian food. I was a member of the Viking/Nordic Dancers of Astoria for many years. I enjoy all of the dancing, especially the ring dances around the Midsummer Pole. When I was young, getting to stay late for the Queen's Ball on Friday night was one time during the year that I was allowed to stay out late! I have always enjoyed helping set up before the festival and making it ready for the busy weekend. It is fun for all ages and I



Stephanie Ann Fay

am proud of the authenticity that everyone has worked so hard to keep.

I would like to thank my sisters for giving me last minute "tips," my Junior Princess, Jessi-Anne, and the rest of the Court for keeping things so interesting. Most of all, I would like to thank the Danish Society and the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association for giving me the opportunity to represent Denmark. The memories will last a lifetime.

## Miss Finland

My name is Niina Rebekah Salo, and I am very proud to be representing Finland this year. I am 18 years old and the daughter of Pat and Carl Salo. I have been involved in the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival all of my life. My Finnish heritage comes from my father's side of the family. My grandparents, Annie and Waino Salo, immigrated here in 1949 and my grandmother is now married to Paavo Knotsalanen.

I think back to past festivals and of all the special times I have had. I remember my cousins coming to visit and all of the fun we had running around to all of the festival booths. My grandmother has always made sure that I have something in my hand to eat, sitting outside on the grass and helping decorate the Midsummer Pole with wildflowers, are the times I will always remember. Marching proudly beside my grandmother in the Optog parade is another memory I will cherish.

When I was Junior Miss Finland in 1984, I had a wonderful time, and believe me, it's a year I will never forget! I have to laugh because it wasn't just flower picking and good foods that made it so memorable. It's just that after all these years, I have finally gotten over the embarrass-



Niina Rebekah Salo

*Thank you to all who participated and supported the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival for all of your time, talent and materials. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and insures the continued success of the Festival.*

*Sincerely,*

*The Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association*



ment of "losing control" during the Queen's Coronation rehearsal! Hurray for nerves and being 6 years old! I am looking forward to this year's Astoria Scandinavian Festival and my upcoming trip to Finland in July. This fall I will be attending Northwest Baptist College in Langley, British Columbia, where I will be studying Christian counseling.

I would like to thank my family for their wonderful support and for passing on the "roots," our Senior Court Chaperone Sari for helping throughout all of our Court appearances this spring, but most of all I would like to thank the Finnish Brotherhood, The Ladies of Kaleva and the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association for giving me the honor to represent Finland this year. I have had a wonderful time.

## Miss Norway

**M**y name is Autumn Zorich. I am the daughter of Peggy and John Zorich. I would like to welcome you to this year's Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival!

My heritage comes from both sides of my family. My maternal great-grandmother MaryAnn was from Halden, Norway. She fell in love and married Torger Tyngesvik from Acra, Norway. My paternal great-grandparents, Peter and Marie Johnson were born and raised in Vassbygd, Norway, which is a small community near Trondheim. My family carries on the tradition from Vassbygd by gathering for our annual Christmas party called "Vassbygdlaget." This annual reunion has given me a great understanding of what heritage and family ancestry means.



Autumn Zorich

I have been involved with the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival almost all of my life. As a young child, I remember helping my grandparents, Virginia and Howard Johnson in organizing booths for the festival weekend and participating in the fun and games. Some of my fondest memories are of walking in the Saturday morning "Optog" with my grandpa and cheering on the Norwegians in the Tug-of-War! A special moment for me every year, is to watch as the Midsummer Pole is raised. It is here that I began to understand how much the Scandinavian Festival means to me and my heritage.

In 1987, I was Junior Miss Norway. I have to laugh when I think back on the nickname, "Little Miss Forgetful." I was given that year by my chaperone. No matter where we were going or whether or not I was reminded, I always forgot a piece to my costume. Be it my banner, hat or pin, if it wasn't sewn on, I forgot it! The Festival holds many memories for me, and I once again look forward to it this year. I would like to thank my family for their support and love, but most of all for keeping my heritage such an important part of my life. Thank you to the Sons and Daughters of Norway and also the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association for giving me the honor to represent Norway.

## Miss Sweden

**M**y name is Joanna Marie Nerenberg. I am the daughter of Bill and Jan Nerenberg. I am proud to have been chosen to represent Sweden for the 29th-annual Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

My heritage stems from Stockholm, Sweden, where my paternal great-grandparents were born, raised and had 10 of their 11 children. Their eleventh child, my grandmother Emma Carlson, was the first child in our

family to be born in America.

I have been involved with the festival ever since I can remember and I have always enjoyed participating in the many events throughout the weekend. I have been dancing with the Viking-Nordic Dancers of Astoria since I was very young, which has given me the opportunity to perform several times each festival weekend over the years. I've always loved the Queen's Ball – it was the only night I could stay out as long as I wanted and dance!

I have enjoyed helping in the Viking-Nordic Dancers ornament booth, selling raffle tickets, and also in setting up before and cleaning up after the festival.

One of my fondest memories of the festival is the Queen's Coronation night. Since I was little, every year I would try to think of what I would say, standing up on the stage as Miss Sweden. My mother promised me when I was 10 years old that if I was indeed chosen someday to be Miss Sweden, she would make me a new costume. She kept her promise and sewed for weeks and weeks early this year. My new costume is from the Estuna Parish of the Uppland Province.

My future plans include attending the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls. I am excited to have been accepted and will be studying dental hygiene.

I would like to thank my parents for all the help and support they have been for me. I would also like to thank the VASA Lodge and the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association for giving me the honor to represent Sweden at this year's Festival.



Joanna Marie Nerenberg




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## Senior & Junior Courts



Denmark

Miss Denmark  
Stephanie Fay

Junior Miss Denmark  
Jessi-Anne Meyer



Finland

Miss Finland  
Niina Salo

Junior Miss Finland  
Katie Teevin



Norway

Miss Norway  
Autumn Zorich

Junior Miss Norway  
Tracie Nygaard



Sweden

Miss Sweden  
Joanna Nerenberg

Junior Miss Sweden  
Audrey Faber

## Junior Court

### Junior Miss Sweden

Audrey Ann Faber is Junior Miss Sweden this year. She is the daughter of Glen and Meridee Faber. She has a brother, John, who is 12 years old. Audrey is 9 years old and in the fourth grade at Gearhart School.

Her Swedish heritage comes from her maternal great-grandfather who immigrated to the United States in 1906 from Odensbacken in Narkerov, and her maternal great-grandmother whose parents immigrated together to the United States in 1893. Their families were from the Leksand and Tuna Parishes of Darlarna.

Her costume is representative of the Leksand Parish. The bodice, skirt and blouse are copied directly from her grandmother's costume. The neckerchief and apron are her great-grandmother's. Her waist purse is made from a Leksand pattern which is over 450 years old. Although the white neckerchief is usually worn only for Christmas and Easter, it is considered appropriate to wear only for special occasions like this one!

Audrey is especially fond of reading and listening to music. Scandinavian dancing and ballet are her favorites. She also enjoys doing crafts. She is currently learning counted cross stitch, cooking, playing wall ball and softball. She would like to thank the VASA Lodge and the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association for giving her this opportunity to represent Sweden.

## THE ASTORIA AUTO DEALERS ASSOCIATION

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**Junior Miss Denmark**

Junior Miss Denmark is Jessi-Anne Meyer. She is 7 years old and the daughter of Sonja Madsen-Meyer of Astoria and Todd Meyer of Bigfork, Mont. Her heritage comes from her grandparents Jorgen and Berit Madsen, who immigrated to the United States in 1964 from Denmark and Norway. Like Senior Miss Denmark, the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival is a traditional family affair.

Jessi-Anne's costume is very special to her because it is the same one her mother wore as Junior Miss Denmark, 21 years ago. Her costume is called "Thydragten" and comes from the northern most part of Jutland in Denmark. This area in Denmark was very frugal. The beautiful woven scarves were often embroidered on both sides. One side was worn for feasts and happiness, and the other side for times of sorrow. Jessi-Anne, of course, wears the side that shows happiness! Her hat is called the "Skaghat." It is a starched hat that stands up with a little hat connected in the back. In the olden days, a special iron was needed to form the pleats on the hat which was not always an easy task! If the hat was to be worn for a special occasion, it was carried in a hatbox. If the rain began to fall, the girls and women could be seen running for cover, for fear their hats would get wet and collapse. As with Senior Miss Denmark's hat having a nickname, so does Jessi-Anne's. Her Aunt "Sissi"

Ann Madsen, who was Miss Norway and Miss Scandinavia in 1984, dubbed it the "peacock hat" when her mother wore the costume.

Jessi-Anne enjoys reading, dancing, crafts and playing with her sister Jodi-Lynne. Jessi-Anne would like to specially thank



Kelland Stidhain for his love and support, the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association and the Danish Society for this opportunity to represent Denmark.

**Junior Miss Finland**

Katie Teevin is 8 years old. She

is a second-grader at Hilda Lahti School in Knappa. She is the daughter of Shawn and Cathy Teevin and has a 7-year-old brother, Jeffrey. Her Finnish heritage comes from her great-grandparents, Olga and Waino Kentala, who Katie called Nana and Poppa. Olga was born in Oulu, Finland, and came to the United States in 1904. Waino was born in Naselle, Wash., and went to live in Kaustinen as a small boy, and returned to Naselle in 1923. Katie's costume is called "Munsala," for the area it comes from. She wears ribbons in her hair, because she is an unmarried girl. Her costume was brought back from Finland in 1973 for Katie's mother on one of their many trips to Finland. That was the

year Katie's Aunt, Judy Angberg-Nygaard, was Miss Finland and also crowned Miss Scandinavia.

Katie belongs to Brownie Troop 123 and the Viking-Nordic Dancers. She takes ballet at the Maddox Dance Studio and was in their production of the

Nutcracker as a baby mouse and an angel. She was on the Miss Clatsop County Junior Court. She played in the Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association, Knappa Hoops Basketball and Knappa Summer Recreation Softball. She enjoys reading, creating things, horses, and spending time with her friends.

Katie has enjoyed her experience as Junior Miss Finland very much and already has so many memories that she will cherish forever. She would like to thank the Finnish Brotherhood and the

Ladies of Kaleva for choosing her as Junior Miss Finland.

**Junior Miss Norway**

Tracie Nygaard is 9 years old and in the fourth grade at Knappa's Hilda Lahti School. Her parents are John and Julie Nygaard. She has a brother, John, who is in the second grade.

Tracie loves to dance. She has been a Nordic dancer for three years, has taken ballet for six years and two years at the Maddox Dance Studio. She likes all sports, especially

See Junior Court, Page 10

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Sweden



Denmark



Norway



Finland

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29th Annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

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# Coronation of Miss Scandinavia 1996

Friday, June 21 • 7:30 p.m.

- Master of Ceremonies Jorgen Madsen
- Presentation of colors Each national anthem sung as Flag and Princess enter
- Presentation of 1996 Festival Court
  - Miss Denmark Stephanie Fay
  - Jr. Miss Denmark Jessi-Anne Meyer
  - Miss Finland Niina Salo
  - Jr. Miss Finland Katie Teevin
  - Miss Norway Autumn Zorich
  - Jr. Miss Norway Tracie Nygaard
  - Miss Sweden Joanna Nerenberg
  - Jr. Miss Sweden Audrey Faber
  - Crown Bearer Kye Johnson
- Introduction of Chaperones
  - Senior Court Chaperone Sari Hartman
  - Junior Court Chaperone Gerry Johnson
- Presentation of Miss Scandinavia 1995 Kerry Stevenson
- Greetings
  - City of Astoria
- Princess Speeches
  - "What My National Heritage Means To Me"
- Recognition of Honored Guests
- Dance Selections
  - Nordic & Viking Dancers of Astoria
- Scholarship Presentation
  - Dale Perkins, president, Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association
- Recognition of Parents of Courts
- Dance Selections
  - Scandia Dancers of Astoria
- Queen's Farewell Speech
  - Kerry Stevenson, Miss Scandinavia
- Introduction of Coronation Ceremony Judges
- Crowning Miss Scandinavia 1996
- Acceptance Speech by Miss Scandinavia 1996

Bonfire immediately following the ceremony. Musicians and the Scandia Dancers will lead the Court in a torchlight procession to the parking lot south of the auditorium for the hex burning ceremony.

A special thanks to Andersen Brothers Jewelry for donating a crown for Miss Scandinavia to keep for the seventh year. The Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival has purchased an authentic crown that will be passed down from year to year.

7:30 p.m.  
Dusk  
6 p.m.-Midnight

Friday, June 21

Coronation of Miss Scandinavia  
Torchlight Parade and Hex Bonfire  
Beer Garden Opens, Elks Lodge 180  
Coffee and soft drinks  
served by Nordic Viking Folk Dancers near cafeteria.  
9 p.m.-Midnight Queen's Ball, High School Cafeteria  
Music by Lennart Kullberg and the Great Danes

## 1996 Scandia Raffle

Raffle Drawing - Sunday, June 23. Need not be present to win.

GRAND PRIZE: 2 Round-trip tickets to Scandinavia or \$500 cash.  
Tickets are courtesy of a generous donation by Scandinavian Airline Systems and The Astoria Scandinavian Festival Association. Travel arrangements through Sundial Travel of Astoria and Seaside.

### OTHER PRIZES:

Beautiful Finnish blanket, authentic Norwegian sweater, Finnish crystal vase, Swedish blue crystal bowl, Danish collectible Christmas plate, Scandinavian needlework kit, Norwegian serving spoon, Danish iron candle holder, Scandinavian Christmas ornaments, gift certificate, Swedish earrings, gourmet seafood package, native Norwegian music - cassette.

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### SCANDINAVIAN MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION DONATIONS:

A beautiful Norwegian tray with Rosemaling, a stunning electric Swedish candlestick, a Danish iron candlestick, a Finnish crystal vase.  
Tickets: 50 cents each, five for \$2, one book (15 tickets) for \$5.

## Festival Sched

**Saturday**  
8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Breakfast  
Pancake, ham and served in the cafeteria by  
10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Booths  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Travel in the Bar  
By Sundial Travel of Astoria  
11 a.m. Optog Pa  
Costumes, music and dance  
11 - 4 p.m. Swedish  
Swedish Order of  
12:15 p.m. Flag Rais  
Center  
12:30 p.m. Midsum  
Center  
3:30 p.m. Parade of  
Center  
4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Scandina  
Swedish M  
Featured  
7 p.m. Lennart Kullberg and The  
9 p.m. - Midnight Public Da  
Lennart Kullberg and

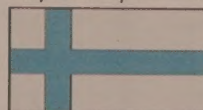
Every nation uses a special flag to symbolize its unity and independence. A nation's flag stands for the gains, hopes, and ideals of the citizens. It is hoped that in its own land, a flag will command the respect of the citizens; abroad, it should be respected as the emblem of a self-governing people. Many flags are designed to symbolize historic events or traditions important to the nation's people. There are many different colors used in national flags. The colors usually

The Flag of Denmark  
Europe's Oldest Monarchy



Denmark, the oldest monarchy in Europe, also has the oldest flag. It is called "Dannebrog." It is thought that this flag, showing a white cross on a red field, was a gift from the pope for the 13th-century crusade against Eastern pagans. The earliest account of the use of Dannebrog dates back to the 1500s, with the flag, established as a naval ensign, it became the standard of the Danish Army in 1842. The name, Dannebrog, probably derives from the Frisian words "dan" meaning red, and "brog" which originally meant a colored cloth. Although the Faroe Islands belong to Denmark, they fly their own flag. It has a small red cross within a larger blue cross over a white field.

The Flag of Finland  
Independent Republic in 1917



The Finnish flag features a blue cross on a white field. According to tradition, the design was proposed by poet, Sakari Topelius, in the 1860s. He said that the colors symbolized "the blue of our lakes and the white snow of our winters." It was made official about six months after Finland achieved its independence after World War I. The Aland Islands are between Finland and Sweden. They are mostly populated by people of Swedish descent but administered by Finland. The flag of the Aland Islands shows this blend with a small red cross within a larger yellow cross over a blue field.

## Flags of Sc

have their own special meanings in symbol of identity.

In Scandinavia, people display the government and public buildings b

The Flag of Iceland  
Independent Republic



Iceland was a Danish colony until 1800s, became a state. It was made independent in 1944. It consists of a small red cross over a blue field. The sky, the white is the promise symbolizes the fiery volcanic when Iceland gained its independence.

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# Rule of Events

June 22

Scrambled egg breakfast  
the Boy Scout Troop 509  
open in Gymnasium  
of Scandinavia  
a, Seaside and Tillamook  
d Room.  
rade

through downtown Astoria

Pea Soup Lunch

Vasa, Cafeteria

ing Ceremony

Lawn

mer Pole and Lawn Dance

Lawn

Native Costumes

Lawn

vian Dinner

Meatballs

Entertainment

Great Danes, Auditorium

ance

d The Great Danes

Sunday, June 23

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Booths Open in Gym

11a.m. Traditional Scandinavian Church Service  
Auditorium

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Travel Films of Scandinavia

By Sundial Travel, Band Room

12:15 p.m. Flag Raising Ceremony, Center Lawn

4 p.m. Closing Ceremony

Raffle Drawing in the Auditorium

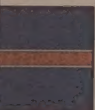


## Scandinavia

each country. A flag is a visual

their countries' flags not only on  
but also at their homes and farm-

Iceland  
public in 1944



possession during the  
century until 1814 and finally  
1944. Its national flag  
within a larger white  
the blue represents the  
rent snow, and the red  
oes. This flag was used  
dependence.

The Flag of Norway  
A Constitutional Monarchy



After being ruled by Denmark from the 14th century until 1814 and then united with Sweden for nearly century, Norway became an independent country in 1905. The present design of a small blue cross within a larger white cross over a field of red appeared as the merchant design in the 1820s. It was not used nationally until the late 1890s and became the official national flag in 1905.

The Flag of Sweden  
Constitutional Monarchy



Sweden's flag with the yellow cross and the light blue field is probably derived from an ancient state coat-of-arms. In 1569, Johan III wished that the gilded (yellow) cross of the traditional coat-of-arms should appear on all Swedish banners, standards and flags. During the reign of King Gustav Adolphus, this design became the Swedish naval ensign. The current design was made official in 1906.

Information about the histories of the Scandinavian flags is from, "Flags," by Eric Ingfield, 1987 and from the 1983 program for "Scandinavia Day" held in Vasa Park, Elgin, Ill.

## Admission Buttons

Buttons are available at Astoria High School during the festival and at the following Astoria businesses prior to the festival: US Bank, First Interstate Bank, Bank of Astoria, FinnWare, Anderson Jewelers, The Dutch Cup, Chris's News, Fabricland, The Compleat Photographer, Uptown Style (Beauty Salon), Bill Lind's Still Images, One Six Five West Bond (Beauty Salon).

Three-day admission prices are \$5 for adults, \$1 for children age 6-16, and free for children under 6. Admission includes all entertainment for all three days.

There is a shuttle service to the festival from parking areas at Astoria Middle School and the old Clatsop County Fairgrounds. The shuttle will also stop at the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles. Schedules will be posted in the bus, limited parking is available at Astoria High School and on West Marine Drive.

## Shuttle Schedule

To the Optog Parade

Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon - two shuttles

To the Festival

Saturday, noon - 2 p.m. - one shuttle

Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - one shuttle

Shuttle Route

Astoria High School - Astoria Middle School - old

Fairgrounds - Department of Motor Vehicles - Astoria High School

## Special Foods

Scandinavian Meals, Cafeteria

Saturday

8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Pancake, Ham and Scrambled Egg Breakfast by Boy Scout Troop No. 509

11a.m.-4 p.m.

Swedish Pea Soup, Rye Bread and Beverage Lunch, Swedish Order of Vasa, \$3

4:30 p.m.-7 p.m.

Swedish Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Red Cabbage, Green Beans, Bread Apple Dessert, and Beverage, Swedish Order of Vasa, \$6.50 - adults, \$3-children 6-12

Sunday

8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Pannukakku (Finnish pancake), Danish Ham, Fruit, Beverage, Astoria Rotary Club, \$4-Adults, \$2.75-Children 6-12.

## Festival Booths

There is a variety of booths with a multitude of wares. The various area Scandinavian lodges will be serving authentic Scandinavian cuisine. Some of the other booths will serve funnel cake, bagels and lox, smoked salmon spreads, deli, clam fritters and sausages. Handicrafts and ornaments, Rosemaling, artwork, Finnish knives, Hardanger lace and festive wooden clogs can be found among the booths as well.

The Festival Booths will be open on Saturday, June 22, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday, June 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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## Local Scandinavian Lodges

There are six Scandinavian lodges in the area representing Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Most were originally formed to help immigrants adjust to their new environment and have continued on through the years to preserve culture and traditions of their heritage. Some provide insurance and scholarships for their members, as well as a social gathering place for meetings, programs, and parties.

A highlight at the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival is the recognition of an immigrant from each of the five Scandinavian countries. They will be introduced Saturday, June 22, 7 p.m. before the performance of the featured entertainment at the Festival. It has become an annual tradition for the local Scandinavian lodges to honor those who have brought their heritage to our community. It is interesting to hear what prompted them to leave "the old country" and how they have lived their lives here in the United States.

## Scandinavian Immigrants

### Swedish Immigrant

Richard Gotting was born in a small village, Köttkulla, Grönahög, Sweden, in the province of Västergötland (200 miles south of Stockholm) in 1922. Richard's mother lived in Connecticut before moving to Sweden to settle down. She met Richard's father on a visit to Sweden four years before emigrating. Richard's father ran a small farm and later operated a small grocery store. Richard has six brothers and two sisters.

Evert, Richard's oldest brother, immigrated to the United States. Richard followed his brother seeking new adventure. Evert helped Richard find his first job. He worked as a gardener on a big estate owned by a millionaire. Richard obtained a job in a bakery owned and operated by a Swede.

His brother moved to Bellevue, Wash., later writing Richard about the job opportunities and higher wages. He purchased a 1936 Plymouth for \$250 and together with a cousin headed West on Route 66. Richard landed a job with a construction company and worked there until the summer of 1951. He met a man from Anchorage, Alaska, who owned and operated 25 cabs and wanted three new taxis taken to Anchorage. He remembers driving on mostly dusty gravel roads. The taxi cabs arrived in Anchorage in three days. Once in Alaska, Richard tried getting a job with the railroad. Unfortunately they did not hire him after hearing his foreign accent. Staying in



Richard Gotting

Alaska he found a job with Morrison and Knudsen Construction Co. and worked for an airline after the construction company closed for the winter.

He headed to Los Angeles in October 1953, driving through Astoria to give Sven Pearson a message from his nephew in Alaska. Sven Pearson was the president of the Astoria Plywood Association. Richard became an Astoria Plywood shareholder after encouragement from Pearson. He met Esther, a lovely young lady who had recently come from Finland. Eventually they married. They raised two fine sons (Swede-Finns).

Richard is a member of the Astoria Toastmasters and the Astor

Lodge No. 215 Order of VASA. Richard has made several trips back to Sweden and Finland and even went to Russia. You often see Richard riding his bike in the local area.

### Danish Immigrant

Niels Jorgen Madsen is the immigrant honored by the Lower Columbia Danish Society for 1996.

Jorgen was born Sept. 14, 1934, in the town of Karleby on the island of Falster, which is in southeastern Denmark. He was raised on a farm where his family grew sugar beets and raised pedigreed poultry. After high school, he entered a three-year business school apprenticeship which led to a variety of jobs. He worked in Copenhagen for the Plumrose Company, a food processor, and later for a farm machinery manufacturer. While working as a ticket taker at Gedser on Falster, for the ferry to Germany, he met and helped a professor of agriculture who was from Norway. The professor invited him to come to his college at Voss, Norway, to work, which he did. He later attended the college and received his diploma in agronomy.

In 1958, Jorgen came to the United States as a foreign-exchange student sponsored by the American-Scandinavian Foundation. He arrived in New York aboard the Norwegian American Line M.V. Oslofjord. He then traveled by Greyhound Bus across America. He spent 18 months completing his practicum in Salinas, Calif.; Gardner, Ill.; and Winlock Wash.

He returned to Norway and worked a tree nursery in Dranunen, Norway. While he was in Dranunen he met his wife, Berit. They were married on June 15, 1963. They came to America in October of 1963 via Anchorage, Alaska to Winlock, where Jorgen

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was sponsored by a Winlock chicken farmer. He worked there for 1 1/2 years. Jorgen then went on to the Carnation Company where he worked as the ranch manager for a large operation in Tenino, Wash. He then transferred to a ranch near Oregon City, where there were half a million chickens. His final transfer led him to Rufus, to manage the most modern ranch at that time in the state of Oregon. He continued with the Carnation company until 1974.

A Norwegian friend of Jorgen and Berit's, Vesla Harris, invited them to come for a visit to Astoria for the Scandinavian Festival. They liked the area and during their short visit found a garden center for sale which they bought. They owned and operated the Astoria Garden Center for 15 years. At present he is employed by the Tongue Point Job Corps.

Jorgen and Berit have three children: Niels Arne, Ann Kristin, and Sonja Irene. They have three grandchildren: Jessi-Anne, Jodi-Lynne, and Kierstyn Margaret. Ann was Miss Norway 1984 and was crowned Miss Scandinavia 1984 on Jorgen and Berit's 20th wedding anniversary. Sonja was Junior Miss Denmark in 1975 and Senior Miss Denmark in 1986. This year Sonja's daughter Jessi-Anne is Junior Miss Denmark and is wearing the same costume her mother Sonja wore as Junior Miss Denmark 21 years ago.

Jorgen has been very active in all aspects of Scandinavian activities as well as community service in Clatsop County. He was President of the Scandinavian Festival Associations for three years, President of the Lower Columbia Danish Society in 1982-83 and President of the Sons of Norway for three years. Jorgen was the Master of Ceremonies of

the Scandinavian Festival last year and will be again this year.

For the past eight years, he has been the "voice" of the Scandinavian Hour on the radio station KVAS every Sunday morning. Prior to that, he answered the request line for the Scandinavian Hour for 10 years. Jorgen has also been the Master of the Netel Grange for six years. He has been active in the Lewis and Clark Cemetery Association and has been one of the main elements in the formation of the Historical Cemetery Association.

Jorgen has made two trips back to Denmark, the latest being in 1994 when his family gathered at the family home, where Jorgen was born on Falster to celebrate his 60th birthday. His three brothers Hans, Holger and Pol and sister Karen and their families were to be together for the occasion.

### Norwegian Immigrant

Ellen Holten Morris was born Ein Torvik, Norway near Kristiansund on Sept. 7, 1899, and is now 96 years old. Her parents were John and Gertrude Holten. Her father first came to the United States in 1897. He made one trip back to Norway in 1902. Selling his farm in Norway, he returned to America and sent for his family in 1908. Ellen and her mother along with sisters, Roberta and Sophia, traveled by ship to Ellis Island, N.Y. They continued by train to Chicago to visit an aunt and then on to Astoria. They traveled the entire way

without speaking a word of English between the four of them. Ellen had two more sisters, Jenny and Gertrude, born in Astoria.

Ellen's father worked on various farms, mainly in the Lewis and Clark and Olney areas. When Ellen was only 14, she often drove the team and wagon into town for supplies. They lived out in Olney past the fish hatchery.

Ellen and her husband met on the top of Saddle Mountain while hiking in separate parties. They married in 1921. Ellen was a homemaker taking care of her only son Lyle until 1949 when her husband died. She then took a job at the Bumble Bee Seafoods where she worked in the main office for many years. During this time, Ellen lived on the family homestead in Jeffers Gardens, she has recently moved to Hammond. Ellen has one son, one granddaughter and three great-grandchildren.

### Finnish Immigrant

Naimi (Valtonen) Koskela was chosen by members of the United Finnish Kaleva Brothers and Sisters Lodge No. 2 (the Finnish Brotherhood) to represent the Finns of the area at the 1996 Scandinavian Festival.

Naimi's home was in the city of Turku, on the west coast of Finland. Her father was a cabinet maker and her mother, a seamstress. Naimi was one of three daughters in a family of four children. After graduation from the Turunsoomalainen girl's school, she worked in Turku for a tele-

phone company. Some years later, Naimi was working for a telephone company on the other side of the world.

Naimi's oldest sister came to the United States in 1937 and to Clatsop County five years later. Naimi wanted to visit her sister, but it took three years of waiting before she finally received permission to enter the country in 1952.

She was hired by the telephone company in Astoria and ended up working there for nine years.

In 1955, Naimi married Elmer Koskela. They recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Elmer is well-known in the area as the former proprietor of the Uniontown Steambaths. After leaving the phone company Naimi helped in the operation of the steam baths for 14 years, until the couple sold the business in 1976.

Since retirement Naimi has been able to spend more time at her hobbies of gardening at her Lewis and Clark home, and crocheting and knitting. She has been an active member of the Finnish Brotherhood Lodge, serving until recently as the treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary. Naimi helped with bingo games at the Clatsop Care Center for several years and with the numerous dinners and events that the Finnish Brotherhood hosts.

## Entertainment

### Lennart Kullberg and The Great Danes

Lennart Kullberg, a professional architect born in Sweden, immigrated to Fresno, Calif., in 1972. An accordionist and vocalist, he joined the band 10 years ago. The other members of the band are Jerry Barrett, Linda Guenero and Hazel Larsen, all violin and mandolin musicians, and Robert Larsen, of Danish descent, who plays guitar.

Their repertoire includes Scandinavian folk and dance music and gammal dans.

The Great Danes will perform Friday and Saturday evenings at the Queen's Ball and Public Dance both held in the Cafeteria. Their feature performance will be Saturday at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

### Suvi-Anna Huuskonen

#### Kantele Player

Suvi-Anna Huuskonen is a high school student from Hyvinkaa, Finland. She has studied music since age 7. Her instrument is the Kantele.

Suvi has participated in the Finnish National Kantele Competition where she placed second last year.

The kantele is especially suited to play the simple folk songs and folk dances of Finland, where the kantele enjoys its greatest popularity. Suvi-Anna will perform June 22 and 23.



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## Junior Court:

*Continued from Page 5*  
softball, basketball and golf. She has two horses and will be showing one of them in 4-H this year. She has joined a 4-H cooking club as well. Her favorite pastime is reading, and she would rather spend time in a bookstore than any other place.

Tracie's costume is called "Trundelagbunad." It is based on a 19th-century Rococco which was popular in Trondelag at that time. The bodice is a blue wool damask trimmed with red on the hem. It has a scalloped peplum with several hook closures above the waist. The skirt is the same color as the vest, with red trim on the hem. There is also a linen damask apron in dark grey and white. The blouse and red stockings complete the bunad.

Tracie's favorite part of the festival is going from booth to booth looking for souvenirs. She would like to thank the

Daughters and Sons of Norway and the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Association for the opportunity to represent Norway.

### Crown Bearer

Kye Johnson is this year's Crown Bearer. His parents are Dale and Margaret Johnson of Astoria. He is 8 years old and a second-grader at St. Mary, Star of the Sea School. He has two brothers, Sam who is 6 and Max who is 4. He also has a dog named Jana and a cat named Kissa! His Finnish heritage comes from the Oulu and Jarvenpaa areas. His great-great-grandfather Jaako Pakenen was from Orjarvi and was the third family and the first



Crown Bearer  
Kye Johnson

Finnish settler in Naselle, Wash., in 1879. He also had other family who came from Kaustinen, Laihia and Ii. His Finnish costume is from Valkeala. His vest is of red wool with black stripes. His shirt is cotton and he has black wool knickers with red knee socks. The pin on his shirt is part of this costume, which came from Finland.

Kye is interested in sports, especially basketball, baseball, football and soccer. He is also a bird watcher and likes to play outdoors. He is a good student and has a lot of friends. He would like to thank the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival for choosing him to be this year's Crown Bearer and his Grandma for being the Chaperone.

### Senior Court Chaperone

Sari Vedeonoja Hartman was born in Kaljoki, Finland, a small fishing town on the Gulf of Bothnia. Her heritage is strong, and she is proud to be a chaperone for the Senior Court. She has been involved

in the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival since she immigrated from Finland as a small child. In 1989, Sari was a Senior Court Princess representing Finland. She has fond memories of the Festival and knows it played a major roll in keeping her heritage alive. Sari owns Hairwaves Salon in Warrenton, and is also a freelance makeup artist. She enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband, Dean Hartman and daughter Maija-Susanna.



Senior Chaperone  
Sari Hartman

### Junior Court Chaperone

Gerry Johnson is this year's Junior Court Chaperone. Her grandfather was the first Finnish settler in Naselle, Wash., in 1897. Gerry belongs to the Astoria Scandinavian Festival Association, the Finnish Brotherhood, Sons of Norway, First Lutheran Church, and is active in the Community Concert Association. She has been involved with the Astoria Scandinavian Festival for many years serving as Senior Court Chaperone in 1987. This is a special year for Gerry since her grandson Kye Johnson is this year's Crown Bearer. She is married to Arnold Johnson Jr., and has two sons, Bruce and Dale Johnson. The Johnsons own Columbia Fruit and Produce.



Junior Chaperone  
Gerry Johnson

## Scholarship

The Scandinavian Festival Association established a scholarship fund to provide financial assistance to worthy graduates who wish to continue their formal education. Financial need is not a factor in the selection of the scholarship recipient. The scholarship is given to anyone who has excelled in citizenship, scholarship, school participation and involvement in the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival activities. Two \$500 Scholarships will be presented at the Coronation of Miss Scandinavia on Friday, June 21. Interested applicants should obtain an application at the high schools.

- Applicants must be a senior in High School and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Applications must be or have been involved in Scandinavian Midsummer Festival activities.
- Applicant must be a good citizen with leadership potential.
- The application form must be accompanied by one letter of reference from a community leader.
- The recipient is to use the scholarship within the upcoming academic year.
- The scholarship may be used for higher education at any school, public or private.

Cover photography:  
Karl Maasdam  
of The Daily Astorian  
Photos and text:

Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Committee, especially Ann Kristin Madsen, Yvonne Sundstrom Dobb and Sonya Madsen-Meyer.

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## National Anthems

### United States

#### Star Spangled Banner

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming.  
And the rockets red glare; the bombs bursting in air  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,  
Oh, say does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

### Denmark

Der er et yndigt land, det staar med bede bage,  
Naer salten osterstrand, naer salten osterstrand.  
Det bugter sig i bølke dal, det hedder gamle Danmark  
Og det er Frejas sal, og det er Frejas sal.

### Finland

Oi Maame, Suomi, Synnyinmaail  
Sol sana kultainen.  
Ei laaksoa, ei kukkula, ei vetta  
ranta rakkaampaa  
Kum Kotima taap pohjoinen, ma  
kallis isien.

### Iceland

0, Guth vors lands, o lands vor guth!  
Ver lofun titt hellaga nafn.  
Ur solkerfum himananna hnyta  
ther krans  
Thinir herskarar timanna safn.  
Fyrir ther er einn dagur sem  
thrusund ar  
Og thusund ar  
Og thusund ar dagur ei meir.  
Eitt eilifhar smablom meth títan-  
di tar  
Sem tilbithur guth sinn og deyr.  
Islands thusund ar, islands  
thrusund ar  
Eitt eilifhar smablom meth títan-  
di tar.  
Sem tilbithur guth sinn og deyr.

### Norway

Ja, vi elsker dette landet som  
det stiger frem,  
Furet, verblid over landet med  
de tusen hjem.  
Elsker, elsker det og tenker po  
vor far og mor.  
Og den saganatt som senker,  
drommer po vor jord  
Og den saganatt som senker,  
senker drommer po vor jord.

### Sweden

Du gamla, du fria, du fjelhoga  
Nord,  
Du fysta, du glädjrika skonal  
Jag halsar dig vanaste land  
uppa jord.  
Din sol, din himmel, dina angder  
grona,  
Din sol, din himmel, dina angder  
grona.

## Welcome from the Festival chair

**W**OW, it's almost festival time! On Friday June 21st, the 29th-annual Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival begins at the Astoria High School. It seems impossible that the festival is nearly upon us.

This year's fun began with the Lucia Festival of Lights in November, which included a beautiful Court presentation, dancing, great music by our own local talent, refreshments and good old-fashioned fellowship. It hasn't stopped since.

Next, the new court was presented, dressed in its native costumes. During this event, the court made its first presentations which would continue, with several appearances, including parades and culminate at the Queen's Coronation on Friday night at the opening of the Festival. The local dance groups have been practicing on a weekly basis and also spreading community goodwill at performances and parades.

Other activities include work parties required to paint and

refurbish the many pieces of equipment necessary to support the festival. Monthly planning meetings, lots of publicity work, coordinating booths and displays, and typical bookkeeping are just a few of the chores required to make this all happen.

Mark June 21, 22 and 23 on your calendar and plan to spend a fun-filled weekend with us at the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

Dale Perkins, Chair  
Astoria Scandinavian  
Midsummer Festival Association

## A piece of history

**T**he Midsummer Pole (Majstång) raising comes from the Swedish tradition of Midsummer celebration. It is traditionally raised in a grassy open setting. It takes many a hand to erect a pole. People young and old join together for a ring dance consisting of double circles and travel in different directions. While the daylight lingers, the midsummer activities continue throughout the night with the dancing moving to an open dance floor.

In Sweden every village raises a Majstång, each unique to that village. Some Majstångs have banners on top, some have flags, others have roosters. The rooster was considered a symbol of the harvest. According to Swedish folklore a rooster was often carried on the harvest wagon to bring good luck on the harvest. It was thought to be a symbol of plenty ... that the harvest would be plentiful. Some people believed the

rooster was a sign of fertility...that they would have many children.

Today raising of the Midsummer Pole signifies the coming warmth of the summer. The Astoria Scandinavian Festival adopted the traditional

Pole raising adorning it with wildflowers gathered by the Festival Court. You'll see the rooster atop the Midsummer Pole at the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. It will be raised on Saturday, June 22 at

## Past Queens

1968	Marjorie Yost
1969	Carol Johansen
1970	Sirpa Perikomaid
1971	Melissa Hill
1972	Rhonda Lammi
1973	Judy Anberg
1974	Marianne Larsen crowned, Linda Sjöblom reigned
1975	Karen Niemi
1976	Kim Tinner
1977	Gail Norman
1978	Tina Hess
1979	Susan Edison
1980	Leila Koskela
1981	Sigrid Ness
1982	Cheryl Cruzan
1983	Julie Lampa
1984	Ann Kristin Madsen
1985	Marja Leena Tila
1986	Danna Brunner
1987	Shari Fay
1988	Sacara Carlson
1989	Josie Hemeon
1990	Kristen Jacobsen
1991	Melissa Rose
1992	Alecia Thomas
1993	Jenny Gustafson
1994	Arny Goin
1995	Kerry Stevenson

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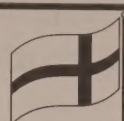
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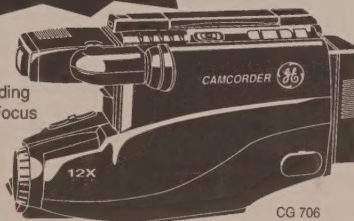
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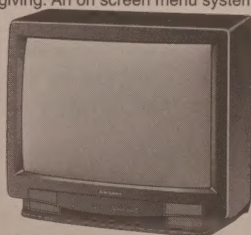
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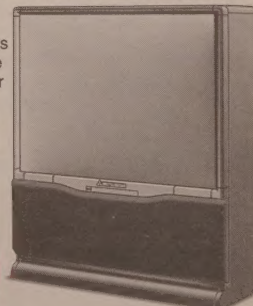
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